



GAIL FARBER, Director

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

900 SOUTH FREMONT AVENUE
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91803-1331

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ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:
P.O. BOX 1460
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91802-1460

August 19, 2014

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

23 August 19, 2014

Sachi A. Hamai
SACHI A. HAMAI
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**APPROVE THE TREE REPLACEMENT PROJECT AT THE SAN GABRIEL VALLEY AIRPORT AND AUTHORIZE THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS OR HER DESIGNEE TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT A FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM GRANT AND A STATE OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION CALIFORNIA AID TO AIRPORTS PROGRAM AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM MATCHING GRANT (SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 1)
(3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

These actions are to approve the proposed San Gabriel Valley Airport Tree Replacement Project and authorize the Director of Public Works or her designee to apply for and accept Federal and State grants to complete the proposed San Gabriel Valley Airport Tree Replacement Project.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Find that the proposed San Gabriel Valley Airport Tree Replacement Project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act for the reasons stated in this letter and in the record of the San Gabriel Valley Airport Tree Replacement Project.
2. Approve the proposed San Gabriel Valley Airport Tree Replacement Project with a total proposed project cost estimate of \$500,000.
3. Authorize the Director of Public Works or her designee to apply for and accept a Federal Aviation Administration Airport Improvement Program Grant and a State of California Department of Transportation California Aid to Airports Program Airport Improvement Program Matching Grant for the proposed San Gabriel Valley Airport Tree Replacement Project.

4. Approve an exception to the County Grant Policy by delegating authority to the Director of Public Works or her designee to accept the Federal Aviation Administration Airport Improvement Program Grant and the State of California Department of Transportation California Aid to Airports Program Airport Improvement Program Matching Grant for the proposed San Gabriel Valley Airport Tree Replacement Project.
5. Authorize the Director of Public Works or her designee to conduct business with the Federal Aviation Administration and the State of California Department of Transportation on all matters related to the grant funds for the proposed San Gabriel Valley Airport Tree Replacement Project, including execution of the grant agreements and signing requests for reimbursement.
6. Authorize the Director of Public Works or her designee to take all actions to carry out the proposed San Gabriel Valley Airport Tree Replacement Project, including any extensions of time and minor changes in the project scope.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The purpose of the recommended actions is to find the proposed San Gabriel Valley Airport Tree Replacement Project exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and authorize the Director of Public Works or her designee to apply for and accept a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Airport Improvement Program (AIP) Grant and a State of California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) California Aid to Airports Program (CAAP) AIP Matching Grant for the proposed Project.

The proposed Project consists of replacing approximately 40 trees in Rio Vista Park, which is adjacent to the Airport and installing shade sails to complement the tree replacement. The recommended action will approve the tree replacements. The County Open Space District has approved the installation of the shade sails. The trees have penetrated the Airport's southwest section (60 feet above) of the Federal Aviation Regulations Part 77 imaginary surface and have become an obstruction hazard to aircraft arriving and departing from the Airport. State and Federal regulators have requested that the condition be corrected. Federal financial assistance is available and being pursued by the County because the property owner, City of El Monte, has agreed to pursue the proposed Project with the County, but it is unable to bear the financial burden for this proposed Project.

The proposed Project will be completed in phases and the replacement of approximately 40 trees some of which are diseased in the Park will occur over the next 3 years. Topping the trees to an acceptable height is not an option. Topping is an unacceptable pruning practice for trees as stated in Section 6.1.7 in the American National Standards Institute A300, Part 1 - 2008 Standard Practices, Pruning. Topped trees create hazards due to the production of multiple shoots below each cut. These weak branch attachments are prone to breakage and can cause damage or harm. To comply with this regulation, there would be adverse side effects to the trees and would change the landscape of the entire Park. The new look of the Park would not be aesthetically appealing due to the severe pruning and/or removal of mature trees without replacement. Therefore, the replacement trees will be of a similar species to those that will be removed with the exception of some additional ornamental landscape varieties that will further enhance the Park's natural features. The new trees will be up to 16 feet tall at the time they are planted and are expected to grow no more than 34 feet in height at their full maturity, which will not penetrate the Federal Aviation Regulations Part 77 imaginary surfaces.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The Countywide Strategic Plan directs the provisions of Operational Effectiveness/Fiscal Sustainability (Goal 1) and Integrated Service Delivery (Goal 3). Implementation of the recommended actions will authorize the Department of Public Works to seek grant funds from outside sources to increase the County's project- funding capabilities, will provide an improved and more accommodating facility for airport customers, and will support quality public works infrastructure services to the communities.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

There will be no impact to the County General Fund.

The total proposed Project cost estimate of \$500,000, as detailed in Enclosure I includes construction contract, change order allowance, construction inspection, and project administration.

Funds for the proposed Project are available in the Aviation Enterprise Fund (M02) Fiscal Year 2014-15 Budget. The anticipated FAA AIP Grant of \$450,000 will reimburse the M02 Fund, which equals a minimum of 90 percent of the proposed Project cost. The Caltrans CAAP AIP Matching Grant of \$22,500 will reimburse the M02 Fund, which equates to a maximum of 5 percent of the FAA AIP Grant amount. The M02 Fund will fund any costs not funded by the FAA AIP and Caltrans CAAP AIP grants.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Pursuant to Public Utilities Code Sections 21681-21684 and Section 4064 of the Caltrans CAAP Regulations, local government approval is required before submitting an application for grant funding.

Following the FAA AIP Grant offer, Public Works typically has less than 1 week to execute the grant agreements. To meet this short deadline from the FAA, Public Works recommends that the Board approve an exception to the County's grant policy, which requires that all grants are to be accepted by the Board. The proposed exception to the grant acceptance policy would allow the Director or her designee to accept the FAA AIP Grant and the Caltrans CAAP AIP Matching Grant on behalf of the County.

On July 11, 2000, the Board approved guidelines for the acceptance of State and Federal grants in the amount of \$100,000 or more. These guidelines include a requirement that a County department prepares a Grant Management Statement for the Board's review prior to carrying out activities covered under the grant. The enclosed Grant Management Statement for Grants for the FAA AIP Grant, Enclosure II, has been prepared to conform to this requirement.

All grant agreements will be reviewed and approved as to form by County Counsel prior to execution by the Director or her designee.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

The proposed Project is categorically exempt from CEQA. The proposed Project, which consists of tree replacement and previously approved installation of shade sails, is within certain classes of projects that have been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment in that it

meets criteria set forth in Sections 15301 (h) and 15303 (e) of the State CEQA Guidelines and Class 1 (j) of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G. These sections and the construction of accessory structures apply to maintenance of minor alterations to public facilities and existing landscape and native growth. Additionally, the proposed Project is not in a sensitive environment, and there are no cumulative impacts, unusual circumstances, or other limiting factors that would make the exemption inapplicable based on the proposed Project records.

Upon the Board's approval of the proposed Project, Public Works will file a Notice of Exemption with the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk of the Board in accordance with Section 15062 of the State CEQA Guidelines.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

All users of the Airport will benefit from the completion of the proposed Project, which will result in reducing obstruction hazards for arriving and departing aircraft.

CONCLUSION

Please return three adopted copies of this letter to the Department of Public Works, Aviation Division.

Respectfully submitted,



GAIL FARBER

Director

GF:RLS:pmd

Enclosures

c: Chief Executive Office (Rita Robinson)
County Counsel (Adrienne Byers, Lauren Dods)
Executive Office

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY AIRPORT TREE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

I. PROJECT SCHEDULE

Project Activity	Proposed Completion Date
Submit Grant Application to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)	September 2014
Contractor selected by City of El Monte officials	September 2014
Receive FAA Grant Award	October 2014
Preliminary construction	December 2014
Construction completed	June 2015

II. PROJECT FUNDING CHART

Project Budget Category	FAA Grant	CAAP Grant	Aviation Enterprise Fund (M02)	Total Funding
Construction	\$396,000	\$19,800	\$24,200	\$440,000
Consultant Services	\$9,000	\$450	\$550	\$10,000
County Services	\$45,000	\$2,250	\$2,750	\$50,000
TOTAL	\$450,000	\$22,500	\$27,500	\$500,000

III. PROJECT BUDGET SUMMARY

Project Activity	Proposed Budget
Construction	
Low Bid Construction Contract	\$400,000
Job Order Contract	0
Change Orders	40,000
Departmental Crafts	0
Youth Employment	0
Construction Consultants	0
Miscellaneous Expense - Inspections	0
Telecomm Equipment – Affixed to Building	0
Civic Arts	0
Subtotal	\$440,000
Consultant Services	
Site Planning	\$10,000
Hazardous Materials	0
Geotech/Soils Report and Soils Testing	0
Material Testing	0
Cost Estimating	0
Topographic Surveys	0
Construction Management	0
Construction Administration	0
Environmental	0
Move Management	0
Equipment Planning	0
Legal	0
Construction/Change Order	0
Other: Design Engineering	0
Subtotal	\$10,000
County Services	
Code Compliance Inspection	0
Quality Control Inspection	\$10,000
Design Review	0
Design Services	0
Contract Administration	0
Project Administration	\$10,000
Project Management Support Services	10,000
Internal Services Department Job Order Contract	0
Management	0
Public Works Job Order Contract Management	20,000
Internal Services Department Contract Compliance	0
Project Security	0
Project Technical Support	0
Office of Affirmative Action	0
County Counsel	0
Other: Public Works Construction Inspection	0
Sheriff Job Order Contract Management	0
Subtotal	\$50,000
TOTAL	\$500,000

Los Angeles County Chief Executive Office
Grant Management Statement for Grants \$100,000 or More

Department: Public Works		
Grant Project Title and Description		
San Gabriel Valley Airport Tree Replacement Project		
Funding Agencies	Program (Fed. Grant #/State Bill or Code #)	Grant Acceptance Deadline
Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and California Department of Transportation (Caltrans)	Airport Improvement Program (AIP) and California Aid to Airports Project Matching Grant (CAAP)	Less than 1 week after receipt of grant agreement
Total Amount of Grant Funding:		County Match: \$27,500
\$450,000 (FAA) and \$22,500 (Caltrans)		
Grant Period: 1 year (est.)	Begin Date: 9/14 (est.)	End Date: 9/15 (est.)
Number of Personnel Hired Under This Grant: 0	Full Time: N/A	Part Time: N/A
<u>Obligations Imposed on the County When the Grant Expires</u>		
Will all personnel hired for this program be informed this is a grant-funded program?	Yes	No <u>N/A</u>
Will all personnel hired for this program be placed on temporary ("N") items?	Yes	No <u>N/A</u>
Is the County obligated to continue this program after the grant expires?	Yes	No <u>N/A</u>
If the County is not obligated to continue this program after the grant expires, Public Works will:		
a.) Absorb the program cost without reducing other services	Yes	No <u>N/A</u>
b.) Identify other revenue sources (describe below)	Yes	No <u>N/A</u>
c.) Eliminate or reduce, as appropriate, positions/program costs funded by the grant.	Yes	No <u>N/A</u>
Impact of additional personnel on existing space:		
N/A		
Other requirements not mentioned above:		
N/A		

Department Head Signature



Date:

7/29/14